Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 05975 301835Z

71
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

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XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 CEA-02

STR-08 SAM-01 DRC-01 /184 W
---------- 116023
R 301715Z APR 74
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4577
AMCONSUL STRASBOURG
INFO AMEMBASSY ANAKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BERN
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY VALETTA
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 5975

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, US, XT, COUNCIL OF EUROPE
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PAGE 02 ROME 05975 301835Z

SUBJECT: COUNCIL OF EUROPE FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING MAY 6

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

1. SEPARATE CONVERSATIONS BY EMBASSY OFFICERS WITH VICE DIRECTOR GENERAL POLITICAL AFFAIRS LA ROCCA AND COUNSELOR BATTAGLINI OF OFFICE FOR EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AFFAIRS SUGGEST THAT MAY 6 MEETING OF COUNCIL OF EUROPE, AT FOREIGN MINISTERS LEVEL, MAY BE OF MORE THAN USUAL INTEREST.

2. LA ROCCA INFORMS US THAT THE AGENDA ITEM "US/EUROPEAN RELATIONS" WAS INSCRIBED BY THE EIGHT NON-EC MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE, PARTICULARLY BECAUSE THE EIGHT FEEL THAT US/EC TENSIONS, FOR WHICH THE NINE BEAR THEIR FULL SHARE OF RESPONSIBILITY, ARE CREATING UNWELCOME DIFFICULTIES FOR THE EIGHT.

3. BATAGLINI CONFIRMS THAT US/EUROPEAN RELATIONS ARE ON AGENDA BUT NOTES THAT THE ITEM WOULD HAVE APPEARED NATURALLY ON THE AGENDA SINCE THE EIGHT ARE ALWAYS ANXIOUS FOR THE NINE TO SHARE INFORMATION ON DEVELOPMENTS WITHIN THE EC. BATAGLINI SAYS FOREIGN MINISTER SCHEEL, AS CHAIRMAN OF THE NINE WILL ADDRESS THE COUNCIL. THE AUSTRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER IS ALSO SCHEDULED TO SPEAK, PRESUMABLY FOR THE EIGHT. THESE TWO PRESENTATIONS COULD HIGHLIGHT THE DIFFERENT POSITIONS FROM WHICH THE EIGHT AND THE NINE VIEW US/EUROPEAN RELATIONS. ON BALANCE HOWEVER BATAGLINI DOES NOT EXPECT ANY EXAMINIATION IN DEPTH OF ANY DIFFERENT POINTS OF VIEW. US/EUROPEAN RELATIONS ARE ONLY ONE AGENDA ITEM, TOGETHER WITH CSCE, PROGRESS TOWARD EC UNITY, THE FUTURE ROLE OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE, ETC., AT A MEETING WHICH WILL ALSO COMMEMORATE THE 25TH ANIVERSARY OF THE FORMATION OF THE COUNCIL.

4. ALTHOUGH EARLY PLANNING BY THE FOREIGN MINISTRY EXPECTED FOREIGN MINISTER MORO TO ATTEND, OTHER TRAVEL SCHEDULED FOR THE NEAR FUTURE BY FOREIGN MINISTER MORO HAS FOR THE MOMENT PUT HIS ATTENDANCE MAY 6 IN STRASBOURG IN DOUBT. IF MORO DOES NOT ATTEND ITALY WILL BE REPRESENTED BY UNDERSECRETARY MARIO PEDINI, A CHRISTIAN DEMOCRAT MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT AND LONG AN UNDERSECRETARY AT THE ITALIAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. THE ITALIANS UNDERSTAND THAT ALL THE OTHER FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE COUNTIRES, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF ICELAND AND MALTA, WILL ATTEND. VOLPE
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